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Pumas Auction Themselves Off On Dates for Charity

By Dan Zimmer
Staff Writer

The holidays and cold weather has come swiftly this year. This means families in need will be in a big struggle to keep warm this year. On December 1st at 7 p.m. in the Halleck Ballroom, the Saint Joseph's College community began a bidding war for a chance to win a date with some of their fellow students. The date auction was put on to benefit needy families in the area. All the money raised would be used to buy coats and warm clothes.

The event was organized by Senior Carly Jo Rittel, along with several other students eager to help raise money for area families in a fun way. The event was more successful than a regular charity fundraiser because the people donating also got something out

of the deal. Many people turned out either to win a date or just to watch the fun.

The students who were raffled off for dates were the bachelors Mack Ogletree, Spike Rossi, Anthony Rouba, David Wallace, Mike Hladik, Alex Makin, Mike Korman, and Cam Cullers. The bachelorettes were Erica Kelley, Taylor Parks, and Stephanie Hash.

The lucky winners and their date pairings were Taylor Parks and Anthony Shevock, Katie Dittman won a date with Cam Cullers, David Wallace and Kathrine Fox, Spike Rossi and Samantha Tapia, Mike Korman has a date with Alexis Klagon, Erica Kelly will be taking Alberto Alguin to dinner, Samm Naples won Anthony Rouba, and Rayane James won Mack Ogletree.

Two of the male date options,

Hladik and Makin, will be taking dates of the same sex. They will be taking Nevin Shearer and Nick Meyer respectively.

Students were able to purchase 2 tickets for the low price of a dollar. Participants put their names on the tickets and placed them into whichever person's bucket they wish to win a date with. Then the bachelors and bachelorettes each drew a winning ticket for their date. All the dates were generously donated from local businesses including Rico's, Arni's, Fountain Stone Theaters and Slice of Pie, to name a few.

Rittel said, "This event was a great way to have a little fun and help out a family that really needed it this holiday season. Thank you to all who helped and donated."

In total over \$300 was collected as donations. The

auction was a fun way to get students involved in community outreach and help out a family in need during the winter months.

Students were also encouraged to donate any gifts to help the family with the upcoming holidays. Such items included clothes, games, and toys and were dropped off in Ernest Watson's office. Students who were unable to contribute can still donate items they no longer need or wish to give away in their dorms through Campus Ministry. There are also many other ways for Pumas to help out the less fortunate during the winter months if they miss opportunities on campus.

Covenant House Candlelight Vigil Helps Homeless Youth

By Jessica Ruschke
Staff Writer

The Twentieth Annual Covenant House Candlelight Vigil for Homeless Youth was held November 16. The college community and the Rensselaer community came together to pray for homeless youth and donate clothing to be sent to the Covenant House chapter in Detroit, Michigan in the 16th vigil held on campus. Money was also collected to help the Garrity family who just lost their home to a fire here in Rensselaer.

According to their website, www.covenanthouse.org, "Covenant House is the largest privately-funded agency in the Americas providing food, shelter, immediate crisis care, and essential services to homeless, throwaway, and runaway kids." The organization has been in existence for thirty-eight years and has locations in twenty-one cities across North America. The website also states that "Covenant House is a leading advocate on behalf of street youth – for those who can't speak up for themselves – at local, state, national, and international levels of government."

The Men and Women's soccer teams organized the t-shirt drive and participated in various aspects of the vigil. Senior Sports Management major Michael Korman and senior Biology/Chemistry major Jennifer Merkel coordinated the soccer teams to help in various aspects of the vigil.

"I really wanted to represent the soccer team this year in the role that we play in the vigil. I believe that Covenant House is a great way to reach out into the

community and try to make a difference in someone's life," said Merkel.

Junior Mass Communications major Jake Hellinga was student coordinator for the event. He helped get a team together for the vigil and organized meetings to plan the order for the vigil.

"I took on this role because I think it is a good cause, and it's a good way to give back to the community. If I was in the same situation some of these kids are in at Covenant House, I would want someone to do this for me," said Hellinga.

The event consisted of songs, a reading of the Covenant House Bill of Rights, a scripture reading, various speeches, prayer. The Saint Augustine Catholic School Choir sang and Mayor Arihood talked to the team and proclaimed November 18 Covenant House Day in Rensselaer.

"I think the part that really stood out to me was the closing prayer. A kid at the Covenant House wrote that prayer, and it made me feel very fortunate for what I have in my life," said Merkel.

During the vigil the participants lit their candles one by one and the vigil ended with a procession around the chapel.

"You can just see in people's eyes--in the candlelight--that they're 'getting it,'" said Brother Tim Hemm.

The vigil reminded the participants of those who are in need in our community, our country, and our world.

"I think it's important, especially as we move into the holiday season, amidst all the good things that we have and that we are able to do, for us to realize that there are those who are less

fortunate than we are and to be involved in helping those people in whatever ways we can," said Brother Hemm.

Merkel agreed. "I felt it was important to heighten awareness of how many children

have to endure such terrible circumstances, and that there are small ways that we, as a community, can help Covenant House reach out to the homeless children."



Pumas gathered to help out the needy at the Covenant House Vigil. (Courtesy of Jessica Ruschke).



A candlelight procession is part of the Vigil. (Courtesy of Jessica Ruschke).



A-10 = Bingo!

By Brandon Bennett
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, November 30, the Student Union Board put on a Bingo night for any student interested in taking a quick break from studying for the upcoming finals. The games were held in the Courtney Auditorium.

Ten games were played throughout the course of the night. However, these were not standard bingo games, but creative variants designed to make the rounds last longer and more challenging.

Also, half of the games were played on sheets with nine bingo cards on them. The prizes were ten buckets of microwaveable popcorn and six DVDs that could only be won in certain rounds.

The first game of the evening required the players to have a kite pattern on their card to win. The pattern was displayed on the projector during the game so the

participants would not forget what it looked like. After some initial confusion, the game ended, and the victor chose her DVD prize.

Now that the players had the hang of making patterns, the next games went more smoothly. The prizes for the second and third rounds were just the buckets of popcorn. The fourth round was called a blackout round, where the players needed to cover their entire card. The numbers were called lightning-fast, creating a very intense atmosphere. Finally, a winner emerged and claimed one of the DVDs.

Several other patterns were used in the next games, including a bell, a snowflake, and a final blackout game using the nine-card sheet. After the game, junior English major Morgan Myers said, "The games went a little fast, but it was fun and competitive." Maggie Schmitt, a junior

elementary education major, felt that the night went well. Maggie is a member of the SUB executive board, and said, "I am very happy that the students seem to enjoy Bingo and taking part in activities that we do on campus. I was especially excited for Bingo this time since I got to play and then actually won a round!"

Freshman Julie Hayes, an elementary/special education major, shared her experience of the night. "It was a lot of fun, and there were a lot of prizes," she said. "We had a good turnout, and I think it went over well." Overall, the Bingo night was a success with all who attended.

The games were competitive yet fun, and everyone enjoyed the time. SUB has a variety of other homegrown events coming up next semester.



Above: Bingo balls are waiting to be picked.

Photo courtesy of: http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.virtualbingo.org/bingo_images/images/bingo_balls_yellow.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.virtualbingo.org/bingo_images/bingo_balls-8.html&usg=__e_vw7aMD12bsXkoKlivyRKT41nk=&h=909&w=1119&sz=686&hl=en&start=3&zoom=1&itbs=1&tbnid=uNyBA0Eq65uSbM:&tbnh=122

Outstanding Freshman, Andrea VanMeter

By Ben Kalinowski
SJC Website

Outstanding first-generation students from 31 independent college campuses in Indiana and the mentors who most encouraged those students to seek a college degree will be honored in Indianapolis, Ind. on Saturday, November 6. Rensselaer native Andrea VanMeter, a sophomore Accounting major, will represent Saint Joseph's College at the event.

Made possible by a grant to the Independent Colleges of Indiana from Lilly Endowment Inc., "Realizing the Dream" recognizes the triumphs of first-generation students in their first year of college. The student honorees are Indiana high school graduates who subsequently demonstrated superior academic performance during their first year of studies and exhibited leadership in campus or community activities. A \$2,000 grant will be mailed to the institution, to be deposited into the student's account and applied toward the cost of his/her education.

The program also celebrates the roles played by teachers and parents in shaping student aspirations for a college education. After being chosen by their college, the students then named the elementary or secondary teacher or counselor who most influenced them to attend college. These mentors will each receive a \$1,000 professional development award.

VanMeter will be joined at the ceremony in Indianapolis by her parents, Scott and Debra VanMeter, and Rensselaer Central High School Spanish teacher Jan Benner. Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Freshmen Ilicia Sprey will also attend the dinner as a representative of SJC.

"I chose Mrs. Benner because she showed an interest in all her students and was always willing to help when anyone had a problem," said VanMeter. "She was strict, but I appreciate that now because I feel it helped prepare me for college. She was organized, had a great work ethic, and showed how important time management was, which is very crucial in college. Her leadership skills were outstanding."

VanMeter is involved in many clubs and activities at SJC and serves in leadership roles in a number of them. She is a member of the women's varsity golf team, Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), and Gallagher Charitable Society, the Treasurer of both Habitat for Humanity and Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), and the President of Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD), a national honor society.

"I am very excited and grateful to be named SJC's 'Realizing the Dream' honoree. I can credit my success at SJC to all my professors. I'm not a number to the professors here; I am Andrea. The professors here

take an interest in every one of their students and go the extra mile to help them prepare for exams, schedule courses, and even ask athletes how they did in their latest sporting event," said VanMeter.

"In the future, I'll be able to look back at this experience in appreciation of my hard work and the hard work of others, such as my parents, high school teachers, and college professors, who helped me every step of the way."



Above:
Andrea VanMeter with Saint Joseph's College President Dr. F. Dennis Riegelnegg.
(Photo Courtesy of: Ben Kalinowski)

Upcoming Events

December 10-10:00 PM - 24 Hour quiet hours begin

December 12- 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM - SJC Band Christmas Concert

December 13- EXAM WEEK BEGINS

December 14-16- 9:00AM - 3:00PM Book Buy Back

December 16- Last Day of Fall Term Residence Halls Close at 6 PM

HAVE A GOOD BREAK!!!

January 10- Residence Halls open at Noon

January 11- Winter Term Classes Begin

Happy Helpers

By Ben Kalinowski
SJC Website

In the spirit of stewardship and giving, Saint Joseph's College's Gallagher Charitable Society (GCS) will host its annual Christmas party for underprivileged children and their families on Saturday, December 4 at 10:00 am CST in the Halleck Student Center Ballroom on the SJC campus.

Faculty advisor Fr. William Stang, C.P.P.S. '72, along with other members of the SJC community, will host a number of activities for those who visit. Also, children will have the opportunity for photos with Santa. Volunteers will hand out jackets, food, and gifts to those in attendance, and a warm meal will be provided.

The number of participants has risen greatly over the years with more than 400 people attending in 2009. The support of the SJC baseball team has been a big reason for the event's success and popularity. Under the leadership of head baseball coach Rick O'Dette '99, who first got involved with GCS as a student at SJC in 1994, the baseball team has become a major supporter of the Christmas party. Players and coaches work as Santa's elves, running games and activities, as well as handing out books, food baskets, and toys.

"To watch our players interact with the families and children

and help the community is an excellent way for these men to build character," said O'Dette. "I feel that our guys get more out of this than most of the people who attend, because it helps them to appreciate what they have and how important it is to give back and help those in need."

This year's event will be run by GCS President Juan Rodriguez, a sophomore Art Education major from Merrillville, Ind.

"Hearing about Gallagher Charitable Society is one of the reasons I chose to come to SJC," said Rodriguez. "I have a high interest in charitable activities, and GCS seemed like the perfect organization to get involved with."

Members of the community have also made an effort to contribute to the event. The Rensselaer Rotary Club and SJC's 3rd Run/Walk for Warmth drive was held at 24/7 Club Fit in Rensselaer to raise money for coats, hats, and gloves that Rotary will pass out Saturday at the party.

"This is an excellent opportunity for SJC to give back to Rensselaer and the surrounding communities by providing gifts, food, jackets, and a special day to those who really need and appreciate our efforts," said O'Dette.

For more information, contact Fr. Stang at 219.866.6216 or williams@saintjoe.edu.



Santa Claus with one of his nice kids.
(Photo courtesy of: Father Tim McFarland)

The Meal Exchange

By Patricia Roeder
Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of http://www.carmare.org/Carm_Web/sodexo.jpg

Dear Editor,

As a busy student here at Saint Joseph’s College, I wish to express my sentiments about the meal exchange policy that has gone into effect this semester. It has come to my attention that some are not in favor of extending this policy into upcoming semester. Having heard these rumors, I wish to express my opinions to the contrary.

First, allow me to express why I enjoy the meal exchange option at the Hub. The meal exchange is incredibly convenient for me because I have a full schedule from early to mid evening two nights a week. Having to take the time out of that busy period to go eat at the cafeteria can be quite inconvenient at times. As a result, the meal exchange is a great convenience that I use often.

I do not elect to take sack lunches from the cafeteria because I feel they are boring, tasteless, and disappointing. I am not incredibly particular, but the thought of a sack dinner twice a week is depressing. The Hub food on the other hand is lively, filling, and of much better quality than a sack sandwich. The Hub offers a variety which sack lunches do not. Additionally, there is the whole social aspect which makes the Hub enjoyable.

“The meal exchange is incredibly convenient for me . . . I have a full schedule from early to mid evening. . . .”

I have heard several complaints about the meal exchange. I have heard that the Hub is too crowded, the cafeteria is too empty, and that the meal exchange is causing profits to drastically decrease. I have even heard some whispers that Sodexo is losing money.

I have a response for each of these complaints. As for the Hub being crowded, I would think that is a good problem to have. It means that people are enjoying your product. If I were a small business owner and large crowds were a regular occurrence, I would prefer to sacrifice space for business any day. It is a sign that your product is successful. Even if people are there for only the meal exchange, there is a decent chance that by simply being at the Hub, a customer may suddenly decide to buy something that is not on the meal exchange menu.

The second complaint that the cafeteria is empty is not merely the fault of the meal exchange plan. The quality of cafeteria food is, on average, mediocre. Naturally, there are a few exceptions but it seems everyday I find a severely bruised apple, overdone green beans, a hair in my plate, or a beverage that has not been refilled. There is hardly any variety, and it seems that I am getting either hamburgers or pizza everyday. Last semester I ran out of meals early and I had to purchase ten more meals for

\$58. That’s \$5.80 a meal. The quality of the cafeteria food is not worth \$5.80 a swipe in my opinion. Although the cafeteria is buffet style, I am not going to get seconds for mediocre food. The cafeteria is inspiring people to go to the Hub with its own quality (or lack thereof).

The final complaint that the meal exchange option is too costly may be a more legitimate argument for the cancellation of this policy. There’s only one problem: I don’t care. I am spending \$30,000 plus a year attending this institution. The last thing I care about is whether a department of the college is making money. I only care about paying my bills, and being relatively comfortable doing so. I do not want to spend \$5.80 on mediocrity. I want to eat decent food without having to pay extra when my meals run out. I don’t want to worry about finding an extra fifty bucks so I can eat regularly during finals week. I want to have an option like the meal exchange plan that fits my schedule, my wallet, and my taste buds.

A Cacophony of Notes from the Editor

By Eileen Mills-Groninger
Opinions Editor

To begin this rather awkward cacophony of notes, let me respond on behalf of Chuck Waterbury, the head of dining services here at Saint Joseph’s College. In response to Ms. Roeder’s letter, Mr. Waterbury had this to say:

“My only comment is that there have been rumors on campus that we are considering discontinuing the meal exchange at the HUB. I want to go on record that this is not correct. We have no plans to cancel the meal exchange at the HUB.”

I would like to encourage those with complaints about the food services to objectively write them out, perhaps provide suggestions for improvement, and submit them to Mr. Waterbury or offer to meet with him personally. Thank you to Patricia Roeder for submitting this letter!

Now I must begin the aforementioned cacophony. In the last issue of *The Observer*, it was brought to my attention that there was a mistake regarding Mr. James Bertucci’s article. The final four paragraphs of his article were not actually penned by him; rather, they were written by Mr. Mocek from a previous issue.

In light of this embarrassment, I would like to offer my sincere apologies by writing this retraction. It is probably an editor’s least favorite thing to do. We do not like to admit that we are ever wrong; after all, we are editors and occupationally infallible. At least, that is what I would like to believe. (If I could artfully put a smiley face in right here, I would. However, this is a formal piece and so I must refrain from tacky informalities.)

I would like to take a moment to explain exactly how Mr. Mocek’s article decided to join with Mr.

Bertucci’s. It is really a matter of a keystroke error. You see, when editing the school paper, I simply open the last issue so that I have my entire format ready for my purposes.

In this last issue, Issue 5, I opened Issue 4 so that I could begin copying and pasting articles into place. Somehow, Mr. Mocek’s article did not get fully erased, and in my haste I simply copied Mr. Bertucci’s article into place without realizing what had happened. It was not caught in our edits, and so we apologize to Mr. Bertucci for misrepresenting his article.

It is rather unfortunate that I learned all of this right before Thanksgiving. I went home quite distraught at having caused any sort of confusion, and yet I was powerless to do anything about it until this issue. It was not my intention, and I promise that in this issue, I made extra sure to delete the articles so that I would not make such a mistake again.

Moving on with this discordant note, I just wanted to take a moment and reveal the things I am most thankful for this year. After humbling myself, what else can I do?

I am thankful to my family for everything they have done for me in this last year. When I was going through some rather emotionally distraught times, they were there to distract me and helped me to see that life has more to offer than I could see.

We may have had our fair share of disagreements, but I would not be where I am today had it not been for them and their comforts.

I would also like to thank my friends this year. As 2010 draws to a close, I have many fond memories to focus on because of the impact of a few great people.

Whether we were all singing loudly and dancing badly, laughing like maniacs or crying over broken hearts, I know that my friends are here and ready to help me get back up when I fall.

I would also like to thank the amazing staff here at Saint Joseph’s College. All of the professors here are like additional family members, and I am so grateful for the supports I have received from their generosity. One would not find the kind of charity and concern that I find here at this college.

To be somewhat controversial, I would like to thank YouTube for providing me with a few new addictions, namely Shane Dawson, Bo Burnham, and The Second City Network. My year has been full of laughs because

of their brilliant (sometimes tasteless) comedy.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been reading *The Observer* this year. It has been an honor to work for the student body by printing your thoughts, opinions, and musings.

I hope that you will forgive me for the last issue’s error and this article. I will say this though: If you do not want to read my articles, start sending me more of your own. I would much rather post your articles anyway. It makes me feel less narcissistic.

As we look toward the end of this semester, another year is coming to a close. This is a time for reflection, resolution, and reconciliation. 2011 starts a new year, so let us all start with a clean slate.

Have your voice be heard!

Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?

Are their concerns in *the Observer* that need to be addressed?

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus?

Are there issues you think need to be discussed?

Tell us about it! The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Eileen Mills-Groninger at emp6839@saintjoe.edu attached as a Word document.

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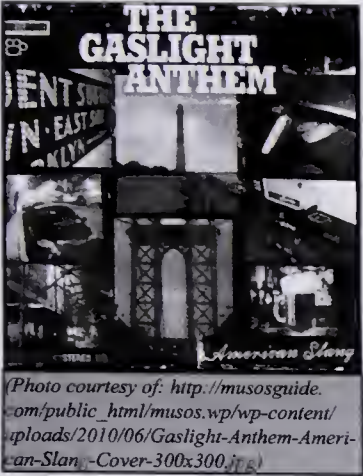
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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph’s College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

Lost in the Shuffle

A quick look at a couple of 2010 releases that didn't make it in the Observer

By Michael Garrity
Features Editor



The Gaslight Anthem *American Slang*

In June of this year, New Jersey punk rockers, and one of my new favorite bands, The Gaslight Anthem released their third full-length album, *American Slang*. Filled with the same intensity, emotion, and Springsteen influence that has covered their prior releases,

American Slang stayed true to the band's roots, while showing them branching out and experimenting a bit more than on their previous albums.

The standout tracks, however, are still those that have a quicker tempo and powerful, emotive choruses reminiscent of their Jersey forefathers. The album starts out with the catchy, toe-tapping title track, but then delves into some songs that are a bit more forgettable and inconsistent. Eventually it reaches the seventh track, "Boxer," a fast-paced rock n' roll tune that certainly lives up to the band's reputation.

The final track on the disc, "We Did it When We Were Young," has a much softer and more well-constructed sound than any song the band has written before, and it makes for a wonderful way to end the album.

American Slang came out just one year after the band's last album, *The 59 Sound*. Good for fans, but unfortunately, that seems to be part of the problem with this

release. Though it is certainly a worthy listen, as Fallon and the band are an immensely talented bunch, but it does feel a bit rushed and less polished than some of their previous material. Of course, it would be hard to top the near-perfect *The 59 Sound*, with any album, but considering the time between the two, The Gaslight Anthem come pretty close. Recommended for anyone who is a fan of punk rock, Bruce Springsteen, or good music.

The Tallest Man on Earth *The Wild Hunt*

Though comparrisons can be drawn between Swedish singer/songwriter Kristian Matsson, known more prominently by his pseudonym The Tallest Man on Earth, and many other folk artists before him, Matsson brings a real sense of emotion and sincerity to his music that is impossible to manufacture. In fact, to quote one of my favorite music scholars, "All you really need to make

good folk music is that you have to mean it."

The Wild Hunt is The Tallest Man on Earth's second full-length album and the one that propelled him into indie rock magazine prestige, and deservedly so. What really makes this a great listen is its stripped down sound; the album is almost entirely made up of just an acoustic guitar and Matsson's vocals. This lends to the album its sense of truth, the listener has to think that Matsson really believes in what he is singing.

The atmosphere is aided by the superb songwriting, with strong lyrics, powerful melodies, and a great sense of storytelling. Matsson really does a lot with his limited set of instruments, especially on the tracks "The Wild Hunt," "King of Spain," and "A Lion's Heart". The songs are all at once moving, relaxing, and delightful. As a whole, the album is relentless in its desire to sedate the listener, ensnaring one with



(Photo courtesy of: <http://cdn.pastemagazine.com/www/articles/tallestmanonearth.jpg?1270120633>)

tranquil melodies and intimate lyrics. Finally, with the last track, the piano-heavy "Kids on the Run," the album bursts forth and releases the listener from its seductive spell, and even that is pretty subdued.

In a year that will likely be marked by its grandiose, epic releases like The Arcade Fire and Kanye West (see Page 5), do not let this much subtler, though just as good, release pass you by.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1: The Beginning of the End

By Natalie Katona
Staff Writer

While most people were shopping and fighting for deals on Black Friday, I was sitting in a darkened theatre, transported right back into the world of Harry Potter when I went to see the first film of the final part of the Harry Potter story.

In this new film, we find Harry Potter in the aftermath of Dumbledore's death and beginning to look for the remaining Horcruxes so he can, once and for all, defeat Voldemort. With this new quest, the latest movie in the Harry Potter series brings a darker feel to the stories. The characters have left Hogwarts behind and are now fending for themselves in the real world. We see them taking every lesson they have learned in school and applying it to the dangers that pursue them. We are no longer dealing with children who are living in a world full of magic and wonder but teenagers on the brink of adulthood who are faced with great peril and very real dangers. Harry Potter was known as a book series that grew up along with its audience and the movie does not disappoint in delivering a story line that really cannot be deemed as a "children's movie."

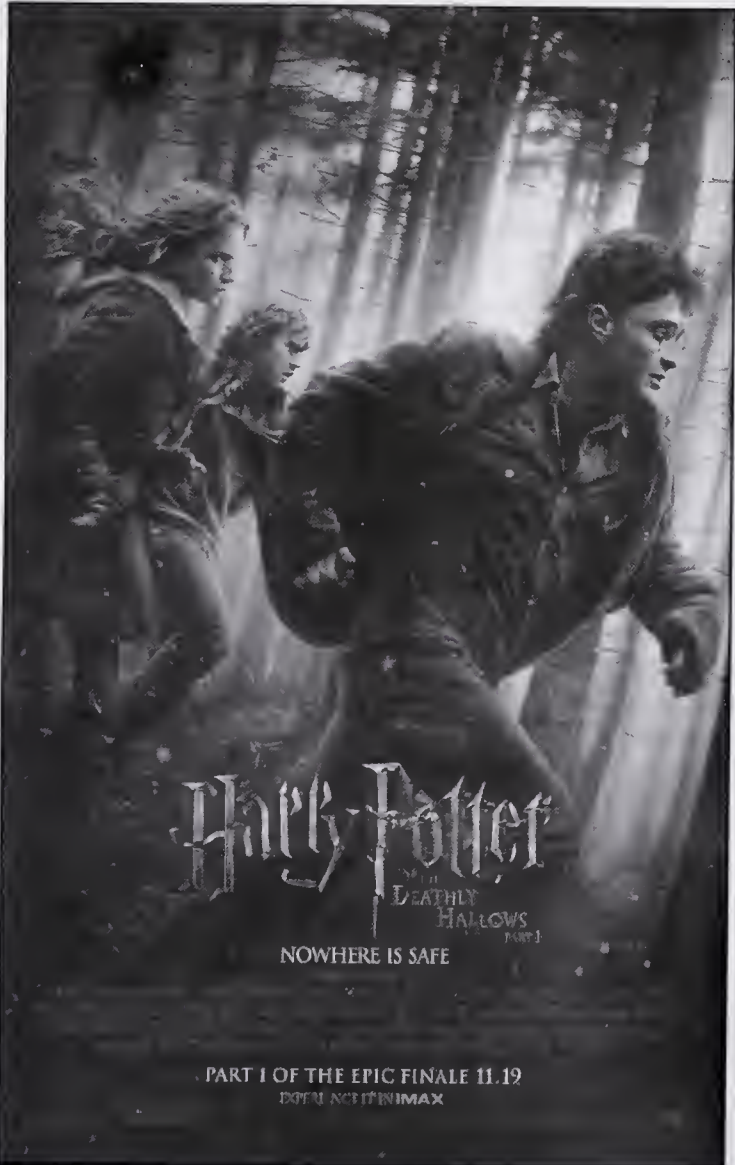
The character that I enjoyed most in this movie was Hermione. I feel like her character has really grown from the nerdy brain which we had normally seen her portrayed. In fact, her maturation is indicative of the overall change in tone for this final story in the series. Now Hermione is a young woman who really takes a pivotal role in the

story. Throughout the movie she appears to be stronger than both Ron and Harry and able to keep a level head. Her relationship with Ron Weasley is starting to become more mature and it suddenly was very evident in the movie how much Hermione cares for Ron. Emma Watson does a brilliant job playing Hermione in a movie that definitely has a different mood, and asks much more of her, than the other Harry Potter movies. I really connected with Hermione throughout the film and viewed her as the character that was holding everything together. There is one point where she even stirs up some drama between Ron and Harry that appears to almost be detrimental to their long-time friendship.

Another interesting aspect of the film that I found to be particularly intriguing was the change in Harry Potter and Ron Weasley's friendship. In this movie Ron becomes dissatisfied with playing second fiddle to Harry and I really felt that it was about time someone got frustrated with Harry! I felt for Ron during his conflicts with Harry and how his friendship affects Ron's life. I feel like Harry Potter could possibly be a very exhausting person to be friends with and it might just be as hard being the friend of "The Chosen One" as it is actually being him. I think one of the strongest aspects of the books and the movies is the friendship between the three main characters. However, I do appreciate their fights and quarrels because it makes them seem like real people. I could picture myself feeling the exact same feelings of jealousy and

inadequacy that Ron was feeling during the movie towards Harry, and in a movie with as many fantastic elements as Harry Potter, it is important to really make the story human. Ron's outbursts at Harry drive the mature and dark theme of the movie. It was also gratifying to watch Ron come to terms with his feelings towards Harry and move past them. In the end he comes to Harry's aid when Harry needs him the most.

This was a great movie and I really think they did an excellent job in all aspects. You can see that the actors are giving it their all, and are feeling that Harry Potter is coming to an end. Bill Nighy was a wonderful minister of the Ministry of Magic and, I must say, I was disappointed when he was no longer in the film. The three stars of the movie, Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, and Rupert Grint, brought out all the stops when it came to their acting and this is the first time in awhile that I was feeling right along with these movies. I have never been as devout a fan as most to the Harry Potter movies but this one finally got me interested again. This movie offers a more mature change of pace and as an audience member you feel every emotion the characters go through. Plus, the special effects of the movie were also well done and I applaud the filmmaking and the way in which the story was brought to life. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* is, by far, the greatest Harry Potter film yet.



This is one of the many posters for the theatrical release of the newest Harry Potter film. This is just part one of two films that will tell the story based on the seventh book in J.K. Rowling's series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. The second and final film will be released on July 15 of next year.

(Photo courtesy of: <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/3/31/HP7part-1poster.jpg>)

My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy

By **Corey Dowds**
Staff Writer

The Beatles. Bob Dylan. The Velvet Underground. Elvis Presley. The Rolling Stones. Miles Davis. Michael Jackson. This list of Most Influential Artists could go for some time, but don't get the wrong idea, the list is fairly exclusive. It contains some of the greatest musical artists of all time, artists that changed their genre, or music in general, forever. If you haven't already added Kanye West to this list, than his new album, *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*, should cement his place among music's most influential artists.

Yeezy's new album is not about one thing, specifically. West buffets through some of his pasts songs and blows them into larger than life songs. Kanye was quoted as saying that he would make songs for his late mother. His last album, *808s and Heartbreaks* largely touched on these issues, as well as other issues that Kanye was faced with, through poppy and heavily auto-tuned songs,. Kanye draws emotion from his mother passing to fuel his songs, as well as his life as a celebrity, like his control and influence over so many things, a.k.a. his "Power". Also discussed is the passing of one of West's idols, Michael Jackson, and, interestingly enough, his own reputation as being less than friendly. More generally, *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* is about decadence, finding and embracing your place in the world, living larger than life, sex, escapism, wealth, overwhelming fame, and, of course, love. West expresses these ideas

with a star-studded cast including Jay-Z, Kid Cudi, Rihanna, Rick Ross, Nicki Minaj, Raekwon, and many others. "Monster," a song by West, Jay-Z, and Minaj discusses what it is like to be the best of the best, or as many people say "What it is like to be such a beast (or monster)." This song propelled Minaj into superstardom, despite her only having one verse. Her first album is already one of the number one items sold on Amazon.com. Just another example of West's "Power."

Kanye is only allowing the best music possible for this album. He had verses from stars such as Drake and Beyonce that weren't even included on the album. Kanye spent 3 million dollars on this album, and even saying he would spend time making this album "indefinitely" upon completion. He stayed up all night and would nap during the day whenever he could. Kanye is dedicated to his music, whether you like him or not.

What people think when they think of Kanye is outbursts including the Taylor Swift incident, and "George Bush doesn't care about black people" episode. West fully embraces his characteristics on the songs "Runaway." and "Power." "Runaway" is a song dedicated to West's own "douchebaggery," and "Power" addresses his overall influence, as well his critics, or "haters." West fully acknowledges his public reputation when saying "Scream from the haters, got a nice ring to it/ I guess every superhero needs his theme music," simultaneously accepting his public reputation while still keeping confident

in himself. Despite millions of people think West is a "douche" he can still be high on himself, which enables him to make such great work like he has.

"All of the Lights" is a song by West with Rihanna performing the hook. It also features other stars such as Kid Cudi, Elton John, Fergie, Alicia Keys, John Legend, Ryan Lesley, Charlie Wilson, and Tony Williams. West blends all of these talents together to make an extraordinary sound. Using triumphant sounding horns and an assortment of sounds and voices, West manages to portray his fast life full of lights, speed, grandiosity, and overall wonder. It is also a life of danger, as the song is a story about a man and his wife that is less than perfect.

I'll switch gears to spare the readers some time, because I could ramble on for pages about the meaning of each song, why it is well made, and the significance of the song with respect to the album and West's legacy. Whether you love Kanye West or not, you cannot deny his music is some of the most influential, and arguably the best around. If you don't like West's music because of his character, then honestly, that is ignorant and narrow-minded. I can see why people would think Kanye is less than admirable, but don't let that skew your view of his music. West's late great idol, Michael Jackson, was in a similar situation. Michael was reported as having done less than admirable things in his personal life, but that has nothing to do with his music. Again, if you don't like Jackson's music because of his character, then that is just ignorant.

For me, Kanye West is an admirable person. Now, before

I get things thrown at me, hear me out. West, I will give you, has done some fairly impulsive things in public. He has made it so the public either loves him, or despises him because he was so mean to Taylor Swift along with some other things, and I will grant that maybe he deserves some of that hate, but listen to this bold statement: I would venture to say we know more about Kanye than any other celebrity. What am I trying to say here? That West is the most real person in the media. West is almost childish; honest to the point where it might hurt. He does what he think is right, and we as the public know that. Other celebrities, maybe even Taylor Swift, put up an image to correspond with their media image, but do we really know that is who they are? No. Kanye is the closest thing we have to a real human being on T.V. He is honest, childish, immature, erratic, confident, powerful, and fully embraces his character. I think about it like this: would you rather have a best friend that is honest to your face, even it might hurt sometimes, or a friend that says nice things to your face and lies behind your back? Real or fake?

I compare West's attitude and Michael Jordan's. Jordan and West have that in common, an undying confidence and swagger in what they do, and if that comes off as arrogant, than so be it. It is because of this overwhelming confidence that you are able to play unhindered by other people on the court, or produce music that is far beyond revolutionary or amazing. If you changed this characteristics in these two men, the Bulls would have zero

championships to their name, and West would be some chump rapper trying to get his name out there. I am saying super-confidence is a super-power. It enables people to do whatever they put their mind to, as long as they know they can do it.

West imagination and creativity is ridiculous, especially when it comes to his newest album. If this doesn't make you like West, then nothing will. Maybe I am thinking narrow-minded right now, and maybe I am in love with West, which I wouldn't say is far from the truth. Right now, to me, this is the best piece of music out this year, as a whole. West has proven that he can do it all. He has the influence to do music with whoever he wants, and he can do it by himself. West's career is like a race, his first albums he set a world record for speed, and now, West is roughly running at the speed of light. Are all the songs perfect on this album? No. Is anything ever really? Is it closest thing I have seen to a perfect album? Probably. *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* gets a 10/10. The best songs on this album propel it to keep it a perfect score, even though some songs aren't as great as others, but don't get me wrong, every song is good, maybe even great. If anyone bothered to read this far, I will personally burn you a CD, whether you agree with me or not. In conclusion, West hits an 800 foot homerun with this album. His creativity and imagination allow him to have truly great power.

The Tradition of Boxing Day

By **Andrew Dudich**
Staff Writer

The same pseudo-historian who gave you such classics as "Thanksgiving is a Military Holiday" and "Slime Creatures from Outer Space (Invented the Cell Phone)," is now proud to present, "The Tradition of Boxing Day." For those unfamiliar with these classic tales, this is a disclaimer that the following is a work of fiction, much like political campaign promises. However, some fact is mixed in for flavor. It is up to the reader to determine which is which.

The exact date of inception for Boxing Day is unknown, but the tradition appears to hail from the time of Medieval Europe. The holiday originally stemmed from, and is now interchangeable with, St. Stephen's Day. It is celebrated on December 26th, and the term "Boxing" comes from the holiday's long traditions concerning boxes, gifts, and beating up the poor. The latter is expressed in the carol, "Bad King Wenceslas," as taken from Wikipedia after high school students learned they could edit articles. This poem can be seen in the box to the right.

HAPPY BOXING DAY!



Santa Claus takes a much deserved break on Boxing Day following Christmas, easily his busiest day of the year.

(Photo courtesy of: <http://www.taracronica.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/HappyBoxingDay.jpg>)

Some citizens were outraged by the disrespectful displays of vicious, malicious, and just plain rude behavior exhibited towards the poor and downtrodden and gave the peasants boxes of food left over from their personal Christmas celebrations. The local priest unlocked the parish alms box and gave some of its money to the poor man. Since

this fateful day, boxes and alms have continued to be given to servants and the poor on the day after Christmas. Boxing Day is now celebrated all across the globe, not only in Europe, but also in European-inspired former colonies including Australia, Kenya, Hong Kong, Canada, and Jamaica. Here at home, the United States has only begun to

incorporate Boxing Day into their calendar after the 2006 advent of Wii Boxing.

In some parts of the world, Boxing Day is transforming into a secular, commercial holiday, much like Black Friday in the United States. In fact, Boxing Day was the busiest shopping day in the United Kingdom in 2008. It is also now the equivalent to "Cyber Monday," with European Christmas Eve sales opening online on Boxing Day. As a result, the Internet community has dubbed December 26th, "Cyber Boxing Day." In an attempt to bring the holiday stateside, internet games were created where you could box with international political figures. One such example is the flash game, "Osama Sissy Fight," where you can knock out Bin Laden and then stick him in a blender (http://www.y8.com/games/Osama_Sissy_Fight).

Regardless of your ethnic heritage, Boxing Day is a day created for everyone to enjoy. It is a day where you can step on the common man and punch his lights out. It is a day celebrating police brutality. It is a day where I will be hiding under my stairs.

Bad King Wenceslas

Bad King Wenceslas looked out

On the feast of Stephen
When the snow lay round about
Deep and crisp and even
Brightly shone the moon that night

Though the frost was cruel
When a poor man came in sight

He was challenged to a duel

'Hither, page, and stand by me

If thou know'st it, telling
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?

'Sire, he lives a good league hence

Underneath the mountain
Wenceslas beat the crap out of him
And dumped him in the fountain.

Men's Basketball Off To A Bad Bounce

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

Marcus Jackson (Sr., Indianapolis, Ind./Ben Davis) recorded a double-double while Dayvon Sloan's (So., Louisville, Ky./Waggener) sharp-shooting aided in the Saint Joseph's College men's basketball team bid for consecutive conference road victories on Saturday afternoon. Drury University fended off SJC's efforts at the O'Reilly Family Events Center to remain unbeaten in Great lakes Valley Conference play after an 81-68 victory.

Alex Hall converted two three-point baskets in the opening four minutes to give the Panthers (6-1, 2-0 GLVC) an 11-2 lead. The Pumas answered with a 12-2 rally that gave SJC a 14-13 lead. Sloan scored eight points in the run that gave the Pumas' its only lead of the game. Dennon Mitchell and Brandon Lockhart hit back-to-back three-point baskets to build a five point DU advantage moments later.

SJC cut the deficit to one point on two occasion after a Michael Lipton (So., Crown Point, Ind./Crown Point) fast-break lay-up at the nine minute

mark and a minute later after Jake Hassler's (Jr., Evansville, Ind./Mater Dei) lay-in. However, the Panthers scored the next 11 points to take a 32-20 with just over four minutes left in the half.

The Pumas went into the lockerroom trailing 40-31 after a D.J. Martinez (Fr., Troy, Ohio/Troy) lay-up at the buzzer.

The Panthers held a 46-39 lead through the first four minutes of the second half when Sloan converted a three-point play followed by a three-point basket that narrowed the gap to 46-45.

With the Pumas trailing 50-49 moments later, Hall knocked down two more three-point baskets as DU scored the game's next 10 points to take a 60-49 with nine minutes remaining.

Drury maintained at least a three possession lead over the final seven and a half minutes as Alex Hall scored 22 points to solidify the victory. Chris Parks added 15 points and pulled in a team-high nine rebounds.

Marcus Jackson finished with 13 points and a game -high 15 rebounds to record a double-double. Michael Horton (Sr., Chicago, Ill./Von Steuben) added 11 points and five assists. Dayvon

Sloan scored 24 points to lead all scores.

The Pumas will host Olivet Nazarene on Thursday for their home opener. Tip-off at Richard F. Scarf Alumni Fieldhouse is scheduled for 7:30 pm CST.



Tealgit Stonewall goes up for a lay-up (Photo thanks to SJC Athletic Page)

SJC VS DRURY TOP STATISTICS

##	Player Name	TOT-FG 3-PT		REBOUNDS		OF	DE	TOT	PF	TP	A	TO	BLK	S	MIN
		FG	FGA	FG	FGA										
11	Horton, Michael....	*	4-9	1-3	2-2	1	2	3	5	11	5	4	0	2	37
22	Lipton, Mike.....	*	1-6	0-4	2-2	0	1	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	27
25	Jackson, Marcus...	*	6-11	0-0	1-1	7	8	15	2	13	1	3	1	2	30
33	Hrynyk, Cory.....	*	1-3	0-1	2-2	0	2	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	20
34	Collins, Phillip....	*	1-6	0-1	1-2	1	2	3	4	3	1	3	0	1	24
01	Sloan, Dayvon.....		8-19	5-12	3-5	0	1	1	2	24	1	4	0	0	30

MEN'S BASKETBALL LOOK AHEAD

By Corey Dowds
Staff Writer

Before you leave for Christmas break, you'll want to stay updated on the men's basketball team so you can go home and tell your parents about them! So don't worry, you'll get your facts right here!

The Pumas at this point in the season are 2-3, all of their games being on the road this season. The Pumas have yet to have a home game, but still maintain a record close to .500.

They have a 1-3 record on the road and are undefeated at 1-0 at a neutral citing. The Pumas opened up on a 55-66 loss against Ferris State. They bounced back with an overwhelming victory vs. Tiffin, winning 81-61.

The Pumas later played Findlay, and suffered a 54-74 loss, and an 18 point loss to conference rivals, Grand Valley State. The most recent in Puma hoops action was a double overtime thriller, resulting in a Puma victory at Rockhurst, 66-62.

Scoring leaders this season are Phillip Collins (13.6) and Davyon Sloan (12.6). Rebounding leaders are Marcus Jackson (7.4) and Phillip Collins (6.6). DJ Martin is also averaging an impressive block per game as a freshman this season.

Michael Horton has a total of 19 steals this season, averaging 3.8 per game. Michael Horton is leading the Pumas in average time played, with 36.8 minutes per game.

The Pumas may not have gotten off to a strong start like they intended, but they are still

in good condition. If the Pumas learned anything from last year, it is that perseverance and hard work will pay off, especially at the end, during the postseason, where it matters most.

Even though they did great things last year, they are in prime position to do the same magical run, if not better, than before. Below are the games during the rest of 2010. The Pumas will return in the new year with even more action.

Dec 9
Olivet
Nazrene
7:30 pm

Dec 18
Central State
3:00 pm

Dec 19
Purdue
Calumet
6:00 pm

Dec 30
Michigan
Tech
5:00 pm

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph's College women's basketball team will open Great Lakes Valley Conference play on Thursday evening in Kansas City, Mo. against Rockhurst University. On Saturday, the western road trip continues as SJC will play Drury University in Springfield, Mo.

The Hawks (3-4) have improved since last season, which they finished 9-18. Chrissy Sarcone is one of two returning starters as she finished last season with a scoring average of over seven points per game.

Through seven games this season, Sarcone is approaching a 10 point per game average. However, Megan Cook leads the offensive attack by giving RU instant offense off the bench. Cook is averaging less than 20 minutes a game but leads the team in scoring and rebounding.

Rockhurst is scoring over 56 points per game while allowing slightly more than 59 points a night. The road to improvement for the Hawks has been paved by good defense and positioning. RU holds a 40-35 rebounding advantage on the season while forcing 16 turnovers a game.

Drury (2-4), a NCAA Tournament team a year ago, returns two starters from a squad that finished 2009-10 with a record of 28-7. Having already played a tough schedule, the Panthers are led by Ja'Nell Jones, who is the lone player on the roster with a scoring average in double figures.

Jones is averaging less than 19 points a game while pulling in six rebounds a night. She also leads the team in assists and steals on the young season.

The Panthers are scoring 60 points and forcing over 18 turnovers a night. However, DU has struggled at times with a 39 percent shooting percentage and a 29 percent three-point shooting percentage.

Drury does hold a slight rebounding advantage with Sara Jane Plemmons leading the team with an average over six boards a game.

The Pumas (2-3) have had over a week to prepare for the upcoming road trip after last playing on November 24th.

Tatiana Ortiz (RJr., Chicago, Ill./St. Louis) leads the team in points, assists, and blocked shots.

Her scoring average of 15.2 points per game ranks ninth in the GLVC while she also ranks fourth in the league in assists per game.

Throughout the course of a game, SJC has shown stretches of scorching shooting, but their efforts have tapered off later in the game. Converting shots does not allow opponents to dominate the rebounding efforts.

The Pumas were out-rebounded 43-17 last week against Ferris State. Kate Novak (RJr., Homer Glenn, Ill./Bradley) is leading the team by hauling in over five rebounds a game.



Jen Szala gets around a defender (Photo by SJC Athletic Page)

Lady Pumas Having a Great Season

By Amber Melvin
Sports Editor

The Lady Puma Basketball team has been improving exponentially within the last few years and this may be their best year yet, even though they lost their most recent game, which was held on December 4th at Drury University, in Springfield, Missouri. The Lady Pumas lost to the Drury Panthers with a score of 63 to 92. Tatiana Ortiz had the most rebounds in the game, with a grand total of five rebounds. Ortiz also spent the longest duration of time in the game, for an entire thirty-six minutes. Brittney Cruse followed closely behind with a total of thirty-four minutes in that same game.

For the Drury Panthers, Erica Goose had the highest amount of rebounds with a total of twelve rebounds in the entire game. Goose was the only player for Drury to get past a total of five rebounds in the entire game.

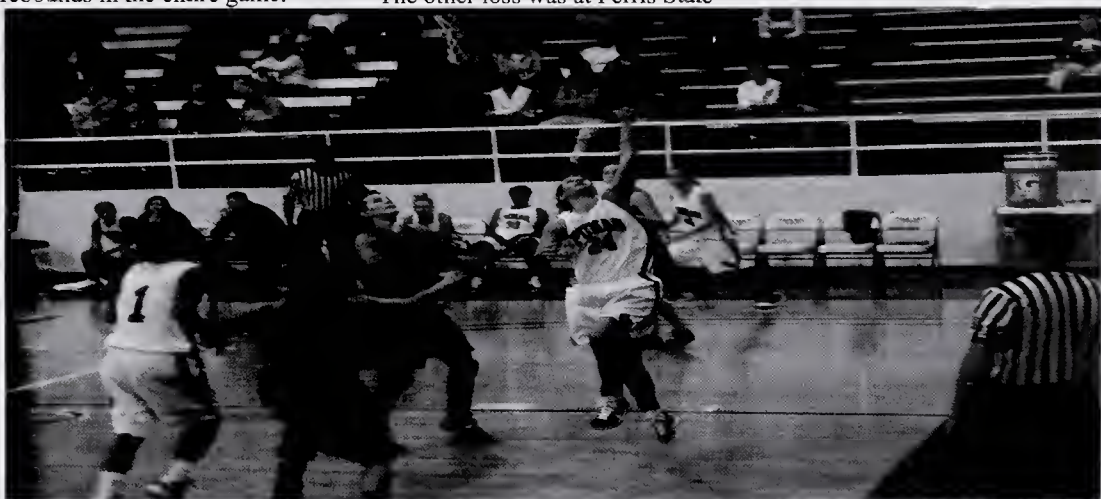
Out of a total of seven games, the Lady Pumas won three games and they lost four. They won one conference game and lost one. For conference, they lost against Drury University and they won against Rockhurst University. The score for the Rockhurst game was 67 to 50. These scores made the conference one and one.

For the Great Lakes Valley Conference challenge our Lady Pumas played Northwood University, a GLIAC conference challenge and lost with a score of 57 to 62. For the other GLVC challenge, the Lady Pumas won their game against Lake Superior State University, a GLIAC conference challenge with an overall score of 69 to 63.

The other games in the season were a win against Oakland City University with a score of 73 to 58. There were also two other losses so far in the season. One of which was Grand Valley State University with an overall score of 56 to 90. The other loss was at Ferris State

University with a total score of 57 to 74. In case you are unsure what GLVC and GLIAC stand for, GLVC is an acronym which stands for Great Lakes Valley Conference and GLIAC is an acronym which stands for Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Our own Lady Pumas will be playing their very next game in Las Vegas, Nevada. They will also be playing in a tournament called "Great Western Shootout". They will also be playing games against Western Washington University on December 16th and Central Washington University on December 17th while they are in Las Vegas, Nevada. This is a big deal for the Lady Pumas, because their game has been improving, so therefore they have recently been invited to play in tougher tournaments. However, even though the women's basketball team was invited to play in Las Vegas, the men were not.



Home game against Ferris State University (Photo courtesy of: Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S.)

Playoff Hopeful And Probable

By Jeremy Butterfield
Sports Editor

In the beginning of the NFL season this year the Indianapolis Colts were one of the many favorites to go to the Super Bowl. As this season has gone on this team of what looked like an unstoppable team came to a team winning games by the skin of Payton Manning's fingers each week.

This team is not the only surprise; the team north of I-65, the Chicago Bears, are currently winning their division by one game. At the beginning of the season this team was supposed to be in third in the division but with the defense stepping up and an offense not being as bad as before this team has figured out how to win.

First is the team which is currently trying to find who they are the Indianapolis Colts they are currently 6-6 and second in their division. Most fans and experts say that the Colts winning and losing all depend on Payton Manning's arm a 13 year veteran who played all of his year at the Colts and their kicker Adam Vinatieri who is one of the best in the league. This year a problem has come into play for Manning

thou his Wide Receivers have been getting injured and most of them have been going in and out of playing all year.

Manning is also starting to feel the pressure of this team and the city come in on him up till week 10 of the season he only throws 4 interceptions. The 3 weeks after that he has thrown 11 interceptions this is the most he has thrown in a three game span during his career.

Lucky the defense and special teams have stepped up, but no matter how hard, some of these game depend on the offense not losing the ball but that has been what is happening. This team can turn their season around if they can win their last four games; three of these games are against division opponents so they can get to the top or maybe at least a wild card spot. Their next game is going to be against the Tennessee Titans Thursday December 9 this will be a short week for both these teams only having 3 days off in-between games.

The Chicago Bears are doing well and they found their identity with a healthy defense that could stop the run, and a special team that is deadly if you kick to them. The offense is now doing their

job of not turning the ball over and getting enough points to win. The Bears also have a quarterback that the game depends on with Jay Cutler. He used to turn the ball over a lot at the beginning of the season but now has improved his ball control. He is also not taking as many down field chances with mean fewer interceptions.

Cutler is in his second year in Chicago but his first year under Mike Martz. The offense system the Bears receivers have is not the tough kind that the system needs. So Cutler is looking bad when he is under pressure but the receivers do not help out a lot.

Since their by week in week 8, the Bears have gone 5-0 which improved their record to 9-3 overall. Since this by week the Bears have been good for the record but each week could be different depending on which team shows up. When the Bears faced the Eagles one of the strongest offenses in the league they were able to get the lead and never let go. Then they can also face the Lions who are a team that is once sided balance pass team and only get a win by a last second touchdown.

The last 4 games of the season will be against two teams

that have some of the best records in the league; New England and the New York Jets. The other two games will be facing two teams in our division, in Minnesota and Green Bay for the last game of the year. The Green Bay game might be for the Division title and a playoff spot.

Both of these teams have a strong chance of making the



Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler is on the run! (Photo thanks to http://cdn.bleacherreport.net/images_root/slides/photos/000/303/139/jay-cutler-bears-thumb-500x682-125196_display_image).

Puma Athlete Profile:

By: Amber Melvin
Sports Editor

Abigail Gazda

Abigail Gazda is a senior here at SJC, during her time she has played the past four years on the lady puma basketball team. Her major is Physical Education and her minor is special education. She hopes to be a PE teacher and coach girls basketball, and possibly run a basketball clinic and an AAU basketball program.



Hometown: Whiting, IN

Nickname: Abby, Abs, Flat Abs

How long have you been playing basketball?: I have been playing Basketball since the first grade.

What is your favorite food?: Bourbon Chicken

What band do you have to listen to on your iPod?: The Dave Mathews Band

What movie can you watch over and over again?: "White Christmas" or "The Hangover", because neither one of them ever get old.

What was the first job that you ever had?: Catering at my Catholic grade school for big events.

Why did you like it?: I only had to work on the weekends and for big events. It was also the first job I got paid at.

Do you have a favorite video game?: Yeah, I like to play Tetris.

What is one thing that people do not know about you?: In high school I was on the guys golf team, because there was no girls golf team and because our school was too small to have guys and girls teams.

If you could play a different sport at the Joe, what sport would it be?: I would play either Volleyball or Golf.

Why?: Because I played both in high school and I enjoyed them.

And lastly, what is your favorite quote?: "This too shall pass" and I also like "Never give up what you want most for what you can get now"

Karma and the Cosmos



By Crystal Gaze

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)
Get ready to have love enter your life at full speed. There have been times you have gone looking for it, but this time it has found you. Prepare yourself, this is going to be a fun ride.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19)
Don't worry, it will all be over soon. It's really sad to think that the best way to describe what is to come is a comparison to a shot, but there isn't much you can do. So shut your eyes and bite down on that spoon, it's almost over.

Gemini (May 20-June 20)
Enjoy yourself, now is the time to celebrate. You have spent the last few weeks working like a dog, now is the time to relax and be merry!

Cancer (June 21-July 21)
Sometimes you let what you think is best overpower what is actually best for those around

you. You need to spend a little more time listening, these are problems that could really use your touch.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22)
It seems as though everyone is undermining your authority, but really they are just testing their own strengths against yours, an example they admire. Let them.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21)
You have been doing a splendid job of keeping your head on amidst all the chaos, so "props" to you! Just keep doing what you're doing until life calms down, and everyone will come out smiling (yourself included)!

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)
Now is not the time to fear or worry. Now is the time for you to be brave during the big storm. You are such a wise, powerful person and people look up to you. So do not falter in these trying times, for you

will let so many people down, and that would simply devastate you.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Every single day, you make someone's day. Chances are its the same person each day. Everything you do is greatly appreciated by someone who could really use the extra effort. Keep being you at all costs, you're saving a life.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)
Nothing you do now can change what's going on in your life. This is one of those times when things just have to play out as they are; all you can do is watch things unfold. It might have a few pleasant surprises in store for you!

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 1)
Perhaps now is not the proper time for being selfish. The holidays are just around the corner and you are not bringing

as much cheer to the table as you think. Put a smile on and try to cheer others, this will bring happiness to all.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17)
Nothing to worry about, just a few bumps in your road these past few weeks. The good news is you're on the right road, for the right road always has a few roadblocks to test your willpower. This journey will be worth it, and you know it. So keep your wheel steady and get ready to face your first fork in the road, decisions are not far off!

Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20)
Good for you, getting out there and making things happen for yourself! However, watch out for that little snag of fiscal responsibility. It bites everyone around the holiday season, but it is out to take a chunk out of you and your bank account. Maybe keep your spending on lockdown for a short while.

Overheard Say What?

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to mbp6978@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

~

"She thinks we think we're better than other people? But that's because we are!"

~

"Gays are the new slaves. Watch legislation fix this over another hundred years."

~

"Is it true you sang a dirty song in Latin at the dinner?"

~

"You know what you should do to get back at her? You should buy her what she wanted for Christmas and burn it in front of her.
: What if she wanted a puppy?
:Unless it's a puppy. "

~

"I wanted to see George Carlin when I was little but my mom said "No, honey, he'll be around forever." What a bust."

~

"You're a twin?"

This week's photograph:



Responses from last week:

Guy: "What am I for Halloween? An ass-hat, obviously."

Guy: "Do you want to unwrap your present now or later?"

Guy: "Of course I need the hat! Without it I would just look like an idiot..."

Guy: "This is what happens when you put on your costume after you drink."

Guy: "Totally straight, don't mind the ribbons."

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for December 8
(219) 866-2222
fountainstonetheaters.com

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part One (PG-13)
Mon.-Thurs. 3:25, 6:05

Burlesque (PG-13)
Mon-Thurs: 3:35, 6:10

Unstoppable (PG-13)
Mon-Thurs: 3:20, 5:15, 7:10

Megamind (PG)
Mon.-Thurs: 3:20, 5:30, 7:15

Tangled (PG)
Mon-Thurs: 3:15, 5:10, 7:15

Coming Soon!
The Chronicles of Narnia:
The Voyage of the Dawn
Treader
and
Tron

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for December 8
(219) 866-0086

Secretariat (PG)
Starting at 7:30

Coming Soon!

Life As We Know It
and
Due Date

Dating Dan:Advice from a Man about Town

Staff Writer Daniel Zimmer,
Junior

What if I am not having fun anymore? What if my relationship stress has outweighed the good stuff? Cut and run, or is it the holiday blues?

I think you need to not worry so much and be a little selfish. Look out for you and do the things you've always wanted to do to make yourself happy. You cannot put your hope in someone else and need someone who wants you to be happy in the end. There is someone out there who will support that. Remember, your something special because you have differences. You cannot give that gift of those differences to someone if you yourself are not happy with them. Look out for you a little and let those differences make you happy first.